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RECORDS AND REPORTING

March 17, 1999

HAND DELIVERED

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

990345 - EG

Re: Petition of Tampa Electric Company for Extension of Commercial Research and Development Program


Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above-styled matter are the original and fifteen (15) copies of Tampa Electric Company's Petition for Extension of Commercial Research and Development Program.

Please acknowledge receipt and filing of the above by stamping the duplicate copy of this letter and returning same to this writer.

Thank you for your assistance in connection with this matter.

Sincerely,


James D. Beasley

JDB/pp
Enclosures

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DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition of Tampa Electric Company)
for an Extension of its Demand-side)
Management Commercial Research and)
Development Program.)
_____)

DOCKET NO. _____
FILED: March 17, 1999

**TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY'S PETITION FOR EXTENSION
OF COMMERCIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Tampa Electric Company ("Tampa Electric" or "the company"), pursuant to Section 366.82, Florida Statutes, and Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, petitions the Commission for an extension of the company's Commercial Research and Development ("R&D") Program beyond April, 1999 until a new demand side management ("DSM") plan is approved and, in support thereof, says:

1. The name, address, telephone number and facsimile number of the petitioner are:

Tampa Electric Company
Post Office Box 111
Tampa, Florida 33602
(813) 228-4111
(813) 228-1770 (fax)

2. The name, address, telephone number and facsimile number of the attorney and qualified representative of the Petitioner are:

Lee L. Willis
James D. Beasley
Ausley & McMullen
Post Office Box 391
Tallahassee, FL 32302
(850) 224-9115
(850) 222-7952 (fax)

Angela Llewellyn
Administrator, Regulator Coordination
Tampa Electric Company
Post Office Box 111
Tampa, FL 33601
(813) 228-1752
(813) 228-1770 (fax)

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

03458 MAR 17 99

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3. Tampa Electric is a Commission regulated electric utility company providing retail electric service to customers in Hillsborough and portions of Polk, Pinellas and Pasco Counties in Florida.

4. In Order No. PSC-95-0691-FOF-EG issued in Docket No. 971173-EG the Commission recognized that utilities should conduct timely, focused research efforts to determine the feasibility of including emerging technologies in utility DSM programs. To that end, the Commission approved Tampa Electric's Commercial R&D Program as a part of the company's overall DSM Plan. As currently approved, the Commercial R&D Program runs through April 1999 with an expenditure cap of \$450,000.

5. Tampa Electric seeks an extension of its Commercial R& D Program beyond April 1999 until a new DSM Plan is approved. However, the company does not seek to increase the \$450,0000 expenditure cap now in place.

6. Tampa Electric is currently involved in a proceeding to establish new DSM goals in Docket No. 971007-EG. The final order from that docket is projected to be issued during the fourth quarter of 1999. Utilities would then have a 90-day period in which to submit their DSM Plans designed to meet the goals prescribed by the Commission. Based on that time frame, Tampa Electric's new DSM Plan will be in effect by mid 2000. Tampa Electric requests authority to continue its current R&D Program until mid 2000 when its new DSM Plan becomes effective.

7. The continuation of Tampa Electric's current R&D program will facilitate the completion of ongoing field monitoring and evaluation of a new type of integrated DX/solid-desiccant air conditioning system installed at a local high school. This project is in partnership with the Department of Energy ("DOE") and the Hillsborough County School System. This

extension will enable Tampa Electric and DOE to fully monitor the test site for an entire year thereby gaining meaningful cooling season data necessary to produce accurate results with future end-use recommendations.

8. Tampa Electric Company believes that the continuation of its current R&D program is integral to assessing the cost-effectiveness of emerging DSM technologies. Past efforts in the company's Commercial R&D Program have included monitoring the field performance of several commercial technologies (e.g., chillers and thermal energy storage). This has provided reliable information that has been used in mainstream commercial applications. Additionally, these findings have enabled Tampa Electric to incorporate specific end-use technologies into cost-effective Commission approved DSM programs like the company's Conservation Value Program.

9. Tampa Electric's substantial interests will be affected through the granting of this Petition resulting in the continuation of the company's Commercial R&D Program.

10. Tampa Electric is not aware of any disputed issues of material fact relative to this Petition nor the relief requested herein.

WHEREFORE, Tampa Electric Company urges the Commission to grant an extension of the company's current Commercial R&D Program until mid 2000, when the company's new DSM Plan becomes effective.

DATED this 17th day of March, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,



LEE L. WILLIS
JAMES D. BEASLEY
Ausley & McMullen
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Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-9115

ATTORNEYS FOR TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY

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